

## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**

**Thursday, October 27, 2011**

**9:30am**

**Recreation Center Conference Room**

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### **Present:**

Russ Akina, Holly Daines, Allen Lowe, Jim Laub, Ed Stephens, Jim Laub, Clay Christoffersen, Mike Hansen, Dan King

### **Excused:**

Jordy Guth, Eduardo Ortiz

### **Welcome:**

Caroline brought the meeting to order at 9:30am.

### **Review of Minutes:**

The minutes from the August 18, 2011 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting were reviewed. Jim Laub made a motion to approve the minutes. Holly seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

### **Logan High Baseball Coach:**

- *Refer to handout.*
- Mike Hansen led a discussion regarding Logan High School Baseball.
- There is a problem presented by being limited to just one field. There is inadequate practice time. There is also a problem with retention in the baseball program.
- Mike noted that Bridger Park is currently not facilitating baseball and he would like to see if that would be a possibility.
- He proposed Logan High doing a lot of the work to get the field ready for baseball use. He stated that he would like to have Logan High School baseball responsible for upkeep.
- Russ indicated that there was a time factor in getting the field ready by spring.
- Preparing the field for baseball use would be less expensive than overhauling the design of the park to meet another need.
- Cost includes removing sprinklers; sod is not a big expense. If there is a different material brought in the expense would be greater.
- A semi load of material would be approximately 55 yards at \$51 a yard, approximately \$1,500 to \$1,800 per load. Because there is a good base on the park there would not be as much needed.
- Original alternate plans for the park were a possible bike park or multi-use park. There is always a demand for field use.
- The baseball season is March through October. Junior programs could also utilize the field.
- Allen expressed concern about the continued care of the field by Logan High in the event of changes in the future.
- Russ stated that this would be a good idea to try to make this work. Risk management will need to be taken into consideration regarding kids helping with the maintenance.

- Jim Laub stated that individuals have asked him about getting lights installed in the park. He indicated that there is a lot of work that can be done privately. Ed stated that the biggest job for the city will be getting the sprinklers out.
- Jim Laub stated that he would be willing to work with the City as a private donation project. Russ said that he would work with City Hall and this could be a great community project.
- The board was in favor of moving forward with this project.
- Refer to back of handout. It expresses an interest in getting a baseball program going in the elementary schools. The goal is to meet the needs of those kids falling through the cracks that don't make it into the super leagues. Baseball is one of the programs that doesn't have a Junior Grizz program. This project would be an endorsement to help community youth and provides a justification for the program.

#### **Selection of Board Leadership:**

- Dan King introduced himself to the Board. Dan will be appointed as a Board Member and will begin attending the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting beginning November.
- Those present on the Board unanimously selected Allen Lowe to serve as the new Chair for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
- Caroline will continue to serve as vice-chair.

#### **Cemetery Maintenance Presentation:**

- Mark reported on activities at the cemetery.
- Currently 229 burials, the previous high is 236 annually. The cemetery will surpass that number this year.
- There are a lot of Saturday burials which is difficult for cemetery staffing. Staff has been required to work all but 6 Saturdays since the beginning of the year.
- There has been a great response from volunteer groups this year. They help with pine cone and pine needle clean up.
  - One volunteer group helped clean headstones.
  - Just before Memorial Day there is one group that comes in and helps clean up the cemetery.
  - Marc Haws ward did a clean-up in Babyland. They removed toys and did mowing and weed eating. The cemetery staff is working on options to address Babyland maintenance problems.
- There are problems with cemetery mowers. There has been \$1,341 spent on repairs since July. They are considering moving capital money into rolling stock to purchase a new mower.
- Cemetery roads have been repaired with hot-mix.
- There has been an outbreak of moss that has killed some of the pine trees.
  - Staff arranged for trees to be sprayed and have been able to save most of the trees.
- Jim Laub asked about a wall with place for cremations. It was noted that Steve Thompson asked about it when he was serving on the council. This idea is becoming more popular as a cost reduction.
  - Brigham City has a Columbarium. Parks and Recreation personnel may do more research to determine if this is something that could be considered for the Logan City Cemetery.

#### **Master Plan Update:**

- There is a lot of work to be done in preparing text for the Master Plan Update.
- Data has been collected. Community Development has assembled an Open Space Committee for the City to determine the amount of open space that should be acquired or preserved.
  - There have been discussions regarding what is considered open space.

- This information needs to be included in the Master Plan.
- The City is sensitive to lands that are habitat areas, marsh, and wetlands.
- Feedback has been collected through Neighborhood Meetings.
- Comments indicate that we need to pay attention to trails and dogs. Both of those issues come up a lot.
- The future of this facility (Recreation Center) will be discussed. There are some problems with the current facility meeting the needs of the community during the winter months (October through March).
- The Board will be asked to review the draft that will be developed.
- Russ stated that he would like the updated Master Plan to be in place beginning the next fiscal year (July of 2012).

**Update on Canal and Canyon Road Property:**

- Dustin Hislop, Parks and Recreation Department staff member, has been working on the five properties to develop a conceptual design to take air photos and show a pathway from Canyon Road to the Canal Trail.
- There is a concern with off street parking, switch back or how to get the people up to the canal.
- Dustin provided the Board with recent pictures of the existing site with a Google earth image.
- The idea is to turn this area into a nice area to go as well as connect to the canal and be part of the trail.
- Holly stated that this should be used as leverage to use with UDOT. She indicated that she is still of the opinion IDOT will use this as access and their mitigation in terms of the springs on their property. If the springs can be channeled back it will make the trail safer and for property owners.
- Holly stated that it is critical to get this project into UDOT's budget year.
- Russ stated that we should screen parking from landscaping.
- Caroline stated that she would like to see bike racks to encourage use of bikes in the area.
- Jim Laub stated that parking has never been an issue. Most people that use the trail are local. The board agreed that six parking spaces would be adequate.
- At this point the timeline is being dictated by UDOT.

**Update on 300 South:**

- Russ met with Logan City School District to discuss plans to put in curb, gutter, sidewalk.
- He also met with Kirk Wilcox from the nursery because this project will impact that business. Kirk understands that it will need to be changed and he is planning on doing his work this winter. That will be done first to accommodate business.
- Another issue is the chain link fence that is not straight. The fence is up to 4 feet off line.
- The elevation could change in side walk of up to two feet.
- The project could cost as much as \$20,000 for fence. Additional concrete will be an estimated \$15,000 to \$20,000. Once we get calculations back from engineering we will go back to district to see if they can participate in the project.
- Handicapped access is being addressed in the plan. Holly noted that the sidewalk should have reasonable accessible access all the way. Currently the sidewalk is fine only until you get to where the field ends. The sidewalk on the other side is could cause wheel chairs to tip.

**Report on Skate Park:**

- Because of issues with litter staff went to the site and intervened.
- The fact we talked to them improved the situation as the word got out.
- The intervention will prove to have positive results. The message to the patrons of the Skate Park was if it didn't get cleaned up it may lead to a temporary closure of the facility.

- It was suggested that we do the same intervention on the Mount Logan Park. We should also talking about additional enforcement; increasing fine to \$50 for not picking up after dog as well as providing more education about the responsibility of patrons cleaning up after their dogs.
- Caroline referred to the signage at Stokes Nature Center. The board agreed that it would help if a few tickets were issued to enforce this ordinance.

### **Community Kick-ball Program**

- Russ going to try a pilot program with help from Utah State University. The purpose of the program is to encourage play in local neighborhood parks.
- Kickball is easy to play. We plan on introducing the idea of kids, adults, and families so families can walk to the park and play together. This may encourage other activities in local parks.
- The concept will be introduced in neighborhood meetings and will hopefully launch next summer.

### **Division Reports:**

- A picture of Bridger and Majestic Park was provided to Board Members
- Parks Staff has been winterizing parks.
- Improvements have been made to the Trailhead on Golf Course road and 300 West.
- The pavilion at central park has been taken down; we are in the process of replacing it. The Parks and Recreation Department received \$25,000 in RAPZ funds for the project. The concrete work will be done before winter.
- Concrete work has been done in the Logan Aquatic Center.
- Caroline asked about linking Lundstrom Park to the Bonneville trail. Ed responded that it is a matter of finding time. In November there will be time to work on trails after the pavilions are done if weather holds.
- Jim asked if there are plans to tie all the trails up to First Dam. Russ explained that in a year-and-a-half the bridge going under the highway to connect stokes trail to hydro plant will be under construction. There will be one linked trail system from 3<sup>rd</sup> Dam to the Short Dugway. This is tentatively in UDOT's budget for 2012.
- Another trail project is continuing from 10<sup>th</sup> West at the Logan River Bridger west of ICON, turning south and connecting with 1800 South. We will know by the middle of November if the Corp of Engineers approve.

### **Open Forum:**

- Cross Country Skiing will be available this winter at the Golf Course. We plan to groom the trail in the cross country track. It is our intention to increase revenue and to provide an opportunity for those in the community who do not golf to utilize the golf course.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, November 17, 9:30am

**Meeting Adjourned:** 10:37am

**Minutes Submitted By:** Launa Murdoch